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account is all the more interesting, as he appears to have been able to understand the somewhat unintelligible psychology of the natives and their consequent attitude towards foreigners.

Best of all, the author has embodied some valuable geographic data on the Chaouia, in the form of an appendix. This territory was but imperfectly known before the advent of French officers. It lies between 34° and $32\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ N. Lat., and extends some 175 kilometers west of longitude $6\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ W. Its inhabitants have all the traits of the fanaticism peculiar to their race. This was primarily the reason why the country remained practically unexplored until about five years ago. In the short interval since then its orographic and hydrographic features have been investigated. Its broader geologic relations have been ascertained. The influence of these factors on the commercial and industrial data furnished by the author may be inferred from his descriptions. To the student these short scientific sketches form perhaps the most interesting portion of the book. Some excellent photographs also help to give a fair idea of the country.

LEON DOMINIAN.

Gold Coast Palaver. Life on the Gold Coast. By Louis P. Bowler. 173 pp.

Portrait. John Long, Ltd., London. 1911. $7\frac{1}{2} \times 5$.

A most unpretentious little book is this, its jacket of an appropriate yellow: just the things seen by a miner who has driven pick into the auriferous reefs of many lands and now on the Gulf of Guinea has found things which struck him as new and strange and likely to interest those whose lives have a shorter tether. Criticism is disarmed at the outset, for the man does not know the first rules of construction. After setting down a caption, if his story does not run to so much as a page, that is a chapter good enough for him. Lindley Murray might have a word to say to him, in fact a great many words, for he does as suits him best with the rules of grammar. Yet the reader is going to prove very cordial to this small narrative. It is such an intimate record of the little known land which lies back of the beach scarcely better known. Every experience here recorded shows itself genuine; no one can doubt its accuracy. There is a charm in the record of the unusual, particularly when it happens to some one else who chances to survive to tell the tale. There is a particularly happy incident of a houseboy who cautioned the author that the cook had "put medicine" into the soup, and when invited to taste his own pottage the cook shrieked "massa, dem soup kill man one time!" Here we have a sample of the jargon of West Africa, the Krooboy, a fecund *lingua franca* which will be found worthy of study by philologists. The sum of such examples amounts to a little more than a thousand words, but they have been found worth extracting for later study. It is upon such simple records as this that we must depend for the most valuable material. A dozen disconnected pages will yield rich treasure to the student of folk lore, particularly valuable as bearing upon Uncle Remus of our South and the Annaky of the West Indies. WILLIAM CHURCHILL.

Congo Life and Folklore. Part I: Life on the Congo as Described by a Brass Rod. Part II: Thirty-Three Native Stories as Told Round the Evening Fires. By the Rev. John H. Weeks. xxii and 468 pp. Ills., index. The Religious Tract Society, London. 1911. 5s. $8\frac{1}{2} \times 5\frac{1}{2}$.

For the general reader the method of this book is singularly inept. Yet it is the general reader who is going, as soon as the treasure is pointed out to him, to forget the fault of method and to enjoy a really brilliant record of life